THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS

Appointed by the Kings Majestie and Parliament of *Scotland*, for conserving the Articles of the Treaty and Peace betwixt the Kingdomes of *Scotland* and *England*.

WITH

Two Letters sent to His Majestie, by the Lords of His Privie Councel, wherein the Councell doth recommend to His Majestie, the desires of the saids Commissioners: and the Petition of the Commissioners of the Generall Assembly.

Printed by *Evan Tyler*, Printer to the Kings most Excellent Majestie. 1643.

CUM PRIVILEGIO.

A.D.S. 1640

At *Edinburgh* the last day of *March*, 1643.

THe Commissioners *appointed by the Kings Majesty, and Parliament of this Kingdome, for conserving the Peace betwixt the two Nations, Having in discharge of that great and necessary trust reposed in them, sent some of their own number to deal with His Majesty, and the Parliament of England, for setling these unhappy differences that are arisen in that Kingdome, and having at severall meetings still expected to heare of their progresse in so good a Work; Yet contrary to their expectation, they finde that all meanes of intelligence is taken away betwixt them, so as they who are sent, are no more able to return to the Commissioners an accompt of their diligence and endeavours, then the Commissioners themselves can imagine what may be conceived to be amisse in the Commission and Instructions sent with them. But in regard that the usage and successe, whatsoever it shall be at this time, is the true touch-stone and undeniable evidence for this whole Kingdome, what they may expect in the growth and increase of these troubles of their Brethren in England: And because even in this Kingdome, all that are enemies to the Peace and Reformation established within the same, are set on work of purpose, to spread false reports in all the corners of the Land, for strengthening the wicked and malignant party, and weakning the mindes and hands of all honest men; and*

happely at this time are ſpreading falſe pretences of the hard and unexpected reſtraint of theſe that are imployed in Commiſsion to His Majeſty, and Parliament of England, as if they were warranted by the Commiſsioners who ſent them, to ſeek ſuch things, as were not fit for His Majeſtie to grant, or this Kingdome to crave. Therefore the ſaid Commiſsioners for conſerving the Peace, have thought fit, that for the right information of all whom it concernes, this following Copie of their Proceedings be forthwith printed and publiſhed, That thereby the Commiſsioners themſelves may have from all honeſt men that love the Truth and the intended Reformation in England, a teſtimony and approbation that they have done their ducty, Theſe who are imployed from them, may be the more encouraged to go on againſt all ſtraits and difficulties, in purſuance of ſo neceſſary deſires; without the obtaining of which, the preſent Peace and happineſſe of this Nation, cannot in all likelihood long continue: And this whole Kingdome may have the true grounds of their reſentment, in behalf of theſe who repreſent them and all ther deſires at this time.

Arch. Primeroſe

Cler. Commiſsion.

HIS

HIS

MAJESTIES LETTER,

Direct to the COMMISSIONERS at their first meeting in September. 1642.

CHARLES R.

RIght trusty and wel-beloved Cousins and Counsellours, right trusty & trusty and wel-beloved Counsellours, & trusty and wel-beloved, We greet you well. Having bin informed that upon Petition of the Commissioners from Our late Generall Assembly, Our Councell thought fit that you should meet, for discharge of that trust imposed on you by Us and Our Parliament, whereby all fair means may be used to prevent such troubles and divisions as may interrupt or endanger the Common Peace of Our Kingdomes: And as it ought to be the continuall studie, and care of all good and pious Princes to preserve their people; So certainly it is the duetie of all loyall and faithfull Subjects to maintain the greatnesse and just Authoritie

of their Princes; so that without this reciprocall endeavour, there can be no happinesse for the Prince, nor security for the people. We are confident Our late Actions in Scotland, will to all posterity be an acceptable witnes of Our care in preserving the libertie of these Our Subjects, and Our desire to settle a perfect peace in that Our Kingdome: And We are als confident, that the many good Acts we have past here since the down-sitting of this Parliament (indeed denying none but such as denyed Us any power at all, and were never so much as demanded from any of Our Predecessors) will bear the like testimonie of Our Affection to the good and peace of this Kingdome, though the successe hath not been alike. For though We have used Our best endeavours to prevent the present distractions and threatning dangers, yet so prevalent have been the oppossers of Us, and the peace of Our Kingdomes, as not so much as a Treaty can be obtained (though by Our severall messages We have descended to demand and presse it) unlesse upon such conditions as would, either by taking all power of Government from Us, make Us as no King, Or by forceing Us to quite the protection of such, as (for obeying Us according to Law and their Oath of Allegeance) they would have Traitours, and so make us do an Act unworthy of a King: Yet so desirous We are to save Our Subjects bloud, (which cannot but be prodigally spent, if We be necessitate by Force of Arms to decide thir unhappy differences) that no sooner any such Treaty shall be offered unto Us by them (which with Honour and Safety We can receive) but We shall cheerfully embrace it. This We have thought fit to acquaint you withall, that from Our selves you may know Our Love to peace: And

We

We doubt not but your meeting at this time wil produce something which will witneſſe your tender reſpect to Our Honour and Safety; And ſo much do We confide in your affections, as We ſhall abſolutely leave the wayes and means of expreſſing it to your ſelves. So We bid you heartily farewell. *From our Court at Stafford the 18. of September.* 1642.

The COMMISSIONERS Anſwer To His MAJESTIES Letter.

Moſt ſacred Soveraigne,

AS we eſteem it a ſpeciall mark of your Royall Favour, that Your Majeſtie is graciouſly pleaſed from Your ſelf to acquaint us with Your love to Peace, and that Your Majeſty thinks that the continuall care and ſtudie of all good and pious Princes, ought to be the preſervation of their People; So do we with all thankfulneſſe acknowledge, That it is the duty of all faithfull and loyall Subjects, to maintain the Greatnes and juſt Authority of their Princes. And leſt the dangerous differences betwixt Your Majeſty, and Your Parliament, ſhould any longer eclipſe Your Majeſties Favour from Your good Subjects, or weaken that wherein doth chiefly conſiſt Your Majeſties greateſt ſtrength, the Affections of Your People; wee

are

are constrained (from the conscience of our duty, from our love to Your Royall Person, from the sense of Princely benignity, and for discharge of that trust imposed on us by Your Majesty, and the Parliament) to endeavour by all fair means, and so far as in us lyes, to remove these unhappy troubles and divisions, which may interrupt, and (as we conceive) do really endanger the common Peace of Your Kingdomes so far, as if by the wisedome of Your Majestie, and Your Parliament, there be not a more amicable decision, than by the sword, cannot but in end produce effusion of bloud, and a world of greater calamities than we can expresse. These considerations have moved us to resolve to send some of our number for our selves, and (according to the trust committed unto us) in name and behalf of this Kingdome, To tender our best service and endeavours, for removing of these unhappy distractions. And in regard of the present posture of that Kingdome, wherein Armies and Troopes are on foot, through the severall parts thereof; And that these who shall be sent from this, may without danger repaire to Your Majestie, and Your Parliament, we desire that a safe conduct may be sent to them: For which end also we have addressed our desire to the Parliament, as will appeare to Your Majesty, by the Copie of that which wee have sent to them, and will be showne to Your Majesty by the Lord Secretary. Which being granted and returned, we intend (with Gods assistance) to walke in this great businesse with that dutie and integritie as may give reall demonstration to the world of our high respect of Your Majesties Greatnesse, Honour, and Safety, and of our true affection to the

prosperity

Prosperity and Peace of Your Kingdomes: which is and ever shall be the earnest desire and continuall care of Your Majesties most humble and faithfull Subjects and Servants.

Edinburgh, 29 *September*. 1642.

Declaration sent from the Commissioners to the Parliament of England.

He Noblemen, Barons, and Burgesses, Commissioners appointed by His Majestie and Estates of Parliament of the Kingdome of Scotland, for conserving the Peace so happily established betwixt the two Kingdomes, being met at Edinburgh, *September* 29. 1642. and entring into such serious consideration, both of their interest and duetie, as the importance of so great affairs, and the present condition of the Kingdomes do require, They find themselves bound, not only by the common Bonds of the Law of Nature and of Christian duetie, to follow after the things which make for conservation of peace, and prevention of trouble, But also by the more speciall Bond of their nationall Oath, and the publick Faith of the Parliament of this Kingdome, in all just and honourable wayes to endeavour the preservation of the Union betwixt the Kingdomes of Scotland and England; And not only this Bond, but authorised also by the late Treaty, & by their Commission to be carefull (during the intervall betwixt the sittings of the Parliaments of this Kingdome) that the Peace betwixt

the two Kingdomes be continued, and to endeavour by all good means to prevent all trouble and division. And if any debate or difference shall happen to arise, which may tend to the disturbance of the common peace, to labour to remove or compose the same, according to the power granted unto them, And if any thing shall fall forth, which is above their power, and which cannot be remedied by them, To represent the same to his Majesty and the Parliaments *respectivè*, That by their wisedome and authoritie all occasions and causes of trouble being removed, the peace of the Kingdomes may be perpetuate to all posteritie: In performing of which weighty and necessary dutie they must give accompt of their diligence and faithfulnesse to the next ensuing Parliament. And considering the imminent dangers and calamities which the great differences, and distractions betwixt His Majestie and His Parliament of England, may bring upon that Kingdome, and by consequence upon this, Their intereſt in His Majestie their native Soveraigne being such, that they are neerly concerned in the safety of His Royall Person, and just Authority; And such their relation to England, that the preservation of the libertie and peace of that Kingdome, doth much import to the preservation of the Religion, Libertie, and Peace of this; the union of the two Kingdomes being so strict in the Bonds of Nature, Religion and Policie, that they cannot but share in the prosperitie and calamities of each other: So that if these differences betwixt the King and his Parliament, shall come, by Force of Arms, and by the effusion of bloud, to be decided, (which GOD forbid) the Kingdome of Scotland cannot but in end be involved in that common calamity. They therefore

from

from the deep ſenſe and feeling they have of the apparent danger of His Majeſties Perſon, and the ruine wherewith His Kingdomes are threatned ; Have reſolved by all good means to acquite themſelves of that duety they owe to GOD by their Nationall Oath to their Soveraigne by their allegeance, and their greateſt Native intereſt in His Royall Perſon, To their brethren of England by their publick Faith ; and the ſtricteſt Bonds of the alliance of the Kingdomes in the proſperity, and ſufferings of each other, and by their like care expreſt towards this Kingdome in the time of their troubles, And to their Countrey by nature, and the truſt repoſed in them by the Parliament of this Kingdome, to which they cannot be anſwerable, if they ſhall be ſilent at this time, and ſit ſtill as idle beholders : By contributing their beſt endeavours to prevent all troubles and diviſion ; and labouring with all tenderneſſe according to their power, to remove theſe differences and diſtractions, which do evidently tend to the diſturbance of the common Peace of the Kingdomes ; And by repreſenting theſe imminent dangers and calamities, to His Majeſtie and the Parliament of England ; That by their wiſedome all theſe occaſions, and cauſes of troubles being removed, the peace of the Kingdomes may be preſerved, for which purpoſe they will never ſhun any pains or travell : And at this time, leſt the evils be more incurable afterward, they have thought fit to ſend up to his Majeſty and the Parliament ſome of their number ; And that they in theſe commotions of Souldiers, and people in Arms, may repair thither with the greater ſafety, doe deſire that there be granted to them a ſafe conduct by His Majeſtie and the Parliament of England,

that no good means may be left un-assayed, whereby both Kingdomes may attain to their desired end of Honour and Happinesse to His Majestie, and Unity and Peace among themselves.

His Majesties second Letter to the Commissioners.

CHARLES R.

RIght trustie and right wel-beloved Cousins and Counsellors, right trustie and trustie and wel-beloved Counsellors, and trustie and wel-beloved, We greet you well. By your Letter of the 29. of September We perceive how sensible you are of the present distractions of this Kingdome, which cannot be a greater grief to any then to Our Self: But seeing all the means We could possibly use for the removall thereof are (by the practices of such as studie division) prevented, and all Our offers of treating (in a fair way to settle these distempers) slighted and not regarded; We are (for the defence of the true Religion, the maintenance of the liberties of the Subject, the Priviledge of Parliament, and Our just, and ever till now unquestioned Authority) necessitate to put Our Self in the posture We are now in, and We shall no further beg a blessing from GOD on Our Proceedings, then We intend the preservation of these. As for your resolution of sending here some of your number, We see no reason why they should apprehend

prehend any danger in their repair to Us; for they may be confident to have a safe and free accesse to Our Person, which we have never denyed to any of Our good Subjects who repaired to Us in a duetiful manner, and were not out of Our protection. Therefore We conceive the granting of a safe conduct to any such absolutely non-necessary: But if they apprehended any danger from the present disorders of this Kingdome, & Armies now on foot, We wil grant such a Passe both for their coming and return, as We ordinarily give to any of Our Subjects or Servants for passing through Our garison Towns or Armies: Which we doubt not will both secure them, and satisfie you. So We bid you heartily farewell. *From Our Court at Bridgnorth the* 13 *of October.* 1642.

The Parliament of Englands *Answer to the Commissioners Declaration of the* 28. *of September,* 1642.

WE the Lords and Commons in the Parliament of England, having duely considered the Proposition made to us by the Noblemen, Barons, and Burgesses, Commissioners appointed by His Majesty, and the Estates of the Parliament of the Kingdome of *Scotland*, agreed upon at Edinburgh

the 29. of Sept. 1642. do acknowledge their wisedome & brotherly affection therein expressed, for conservation of the Peace of this Kingdome, according to the late Treatie, ratified in the Parliaments of both Kingdomes: And that they being equally intereſt in the cause of these troubles, That is, the malignant designes now in hand, by force of Armes to hinder Reformation of Religion and Church-government, and to introduce Poperie and Superstition, cannot long be free from the consequences thereof, The like combustions and commotions in that Kingdome, if the Popish and malignant party prevaile here: And do well approve the tenderneſſe and care of our troubles and dangers, as being agreeable to the Intention of that Act, and answerable to the like care lately expressed by this Parliament in thir troubles. And whereas for discharge of that mutuall trust, which by the fore-mentioned action of Pacification, is reposed in the Commissioners of both the Kingdomes *respective*, They have thought fit to send some of this number to His Majesty, and this Parliament; and for the better security in these times of commotions of Souldiers and people in Armes, we have resolved that we the Lords and Commons, shall grant them a safe conduct, as is desired in their Proposition afore-mentioned, excepting out of the same; *James* Duke of *Lennox*, and *Robert* Earle of *Roxburgh*, being both delinquents to this Parliament. And that we will concurre with the Commissioners of that State in all good means, for the preservation of Gods true Religion, the honour and happineſſe of His Majesty, the just right and liberties, together with the peace, prosperity, and unity of both the Kingdomes. October 20. 1642. *Subscribitur* Jo. Brown. *Cler. Parliam.*

An

An ordinance of the Lords and Commons in Parliament, for the security and safe conduct of the Commissioners of the Realm of Scotland, for the conservation of the Peace made 24. October 1642.

WHereas in pursuance of the Act of Pacification and Oblivion, made in the 17. year of His Majesties Reigne, diverse Noblemen, Barons, and Burgesses, have been nominate and appointed by His Majesty, and Estates of Parliament of the Kingdome of *Scotland*, to be Commissioners for the conservation of the Peace of both the Kingdomes, who have thought good to send

being some of their own number, to His Majesty, and this Parliament, in discharge of that trust reposed in them by that Act of Pacification, for their better suretie in these times of commotion of Souldiers and people in Armes, It is ordained by the Lords and Commons in Parliament, that the saids Commissioners which are to be sent as afore, with all their servants and retinue, shall be protected by the power and authority of Parliament, and kept safe and free from all danger, molestation, restraint, and detention in their repair to *London*, and during their abode here, and in their return back again. And for the further notice and manifestation hereof, it is ordered

ordered , that the Speakers of both the Houſes ſhall ſubſcribe this full and free ſafe conduct and ſafeguard to the Perſons above-written, whereby they may be ſecured from all harm & reſtraint in their paſſage ,abode,and repaſſe, to be interpreted in als large, and ample, and beneficiall manner, and with als full and reall aſſurance, as ever any ſafeguard or ſafe conduct, may or ought to be interpreted, ſtrengthened, and confirmed,by the publick Faith of the Kingdome ; and that any Copy hereof under the hands of both, or either of the Clarkes of the Lords or Commons Houſes , ſhall be of als great force and effect, for the ſafe conduct, and ſecuring of the ſaids Perſons,or any of them,their retinue and ſervants, as the Originall ſigned by the Speakers, as is before expreſt. Requiring all Officers and Souldiers in the Army , as likewiſe all Sheriffs, and Majors , and others His Majeſties loving Subjects, to obſerve the ſame with all due obedience and care : And likewiſe to give them all aid and aſſiſtance , as often as occaſion ſhall require , as they will anſwer the contrary at their perill. It is further ordained, as before, That *James* Duke of *Lennox* , and *Robert* Earle of *Roxburgh* , ſhall be excepted out of this preſent ſafe conduct , and ſhall receive no benefit nor protection by the ſame.

Gray *of Work* , *Speaker of the Houſe of Peeres.*
William Lenthal, *Speaker of the Houſe of Commons.*

The

The COMMISSIONERS *second Letter to His* MAJESTIE *for a safe conduct.*

Most sacred Soveraigne,

AS the high respect we owe to Your Majestie, and the trust put upon us for preserving the common peace of this Kingdome, did lay a necessity on us to offer our best service for removing these unhappy troubles and divisions betwixt Your Majesty, and Your Parliament, and to crave a safe conduct for such persons, as to that end, were to repaire to Your Majesty; so the sense of the same duety and affection, makes us to renue our earnest and humble desire, for the reasons more fully expresst in our letters to Your Majesties Secretary, and to the Earle of *Lindsay*. And Your Majesty manifesting, that the service which we offer, is acceptable to Your Majesty, will be a great encouragement to enable us with the more chearfulnesse to go about the performance of that duety, which in a time of so imminent dangers we owe to Your Majesty, and the Peace of Your Kingdomes. And so praying God to blesse Your Majesty with a prosperous reigne over us, we rest Your Majesties most humble and faithfull Subjects and Servants.

Edinburgh 16. *November* 1642.

The Commissioners Letter to the Earle of Lanerick His Majesties Secretary.

Our very Honourable good Lord,

WE have at length considered the Letter sent from His Majesty to us, concerning a safe conduct to such as shall be imployed by us, conform to our Letters to His Majesty of 29. *Sept.* last. But finding the same to be so dubious, as we cannot perceive a clear approbation from His Majesty of our sending and mediation, nor yet a safe conduct sent unto us, we have deferred at this time to send up any (although the Parliament have declared their willingnesse both in their answer and safe conduct, as will appear by the inclosed Copies thereof) till His Majesties further pleasure be known: Yet the present posture of affairs there, in respect of the great distractions, Our interest in His Majesties Person, and common peace of thir Kingdomes, The conscience of our Intentions, The confidence we have of His Majesties justice and goodnes, and our resolution to carry our selves in such a dutifull way as becometh His Majesties loyall Subjects, zealous of his Honour, And the desire we have, that the offer of our service may be acceptable to His Majesty, enforceth us again at this time to pursue our former desires to His Majesty, by this inclosed Letter: which we desire Your Lordship to present to His Majesty with the first conveniencie; and therewithall to sollicite, that His Majesty may be pleased more fully to expresse His acceptation of this our service and mediation, and to grant us a safe Passe under His royall Hand and Seal, which must be drawn in such a way, as

may

may fully secure these who are to be imployed in their repair thither, abode there, and return again, and that some authentick doubles be also sent thereof. Wherein expecting Your Lordships care, we rest Your Lordships assured friends. *Edinburgh* 16. *November* 1642.

His MAJESTIES *safe conduct.*

CHARLES R.

WHereas the Commissioners appointed by Us and Our Parliament of *Scotland*, for preserving the Articles of the Treaty, have thought fit to send unto Us being some of their number. Therefore (for their better security in these times of commotions of Souldiers, and people in Arms) We have thought fit to declare to all Our Officers and Souldiers of Our Armies, Sheriffs, Majors, and all others Our Subjects whatsoever, That We have taken, like as by thir presents We do take the saids Commissioners, and any others their adjuncts hereafter, being of their own number, with all their meniall and domestick servants and attendants, into Our Royall protection and safeguard: Assuring them upon the Royall Word and Faith of a Prince, that the aforesaid

their persons, servants, and whole retinue foresaid, shall be safe and free from all danger, molestation, restraint, or de-

tention in their repair to Us, Our Houſes of Parliament, or any part of Our Kingdome of England, abode therein, and in their return to Scotland at their pleaſure. And for the further aſſurance hereof, We are graciouſly pleaſed to ſigne, and cauſe affix Our Signet to this Our full & free ſafe conduct and ſafeguard, to the perſons above-named, their ſaids adjuncts, ſervants, and retinue aforeſaid, from all harm and reſtraint in their coming, abode in this Kingdome, and return to Scotland, in als ample a meaning and reall aſſurance, as ever any ſafeguard or ſafe conduct, with all the clauſes thereof, in this, or any other Kingdome, doth import, and that a Copy hereof, under the hand of any of Our principall Secretaries of State, ſhall be of als great force and effect, for the ſafe conduct and ſecuring of their perſons, or any of them, their retinue and ſervants aforeſaid, as this Originall ſigned by Our Royall Hand, & under Our Signet. And We ordain this Our ſafe conduct to be publickly intimated to all the Officers and Souldiers of Our Armies, Sheriffs, Majors, and all others Our Subjects, whereby none do pretend ignorance of the ſame: Requiring and commanding them to obſerve and give ready obedience hereunto, or to a Copy hereof, (ſo atteſted under the hands of any of Our principall Secretaries of State) as they will anſwer upon the contrary at their higheſt perils. *Given at our Court at* Oxford. 2. *December, in* 18. *year of Our Reigne,* 1642.

To all Generalls of Our Armies, Lievtenants Generalls, Commanders of Our Towns, Forts, and Caſtles, and all others Officers and Souldiers in Our Armies, Sheriffs, Majors, and all others Our loving Subjects whatſoever, whom theſe preſents may concerne.

The

The Commission and Instructions given to the Lord Chancellor, &c. 18. Jan. 1643.

WE the Commissioners, appointed by the Kings Majestie and Estates of Parliament of the Kingdome of Scotland, finding our selves warranted and obliged by our Commission, and by the late Treaty betwixt the two Kingdomes, to use all good means, and to contribute our utmost endeavours for unity of Religion and Uniformitie of Church-government within His Majesties Dominions, and for removall of the differences betwixt His Majestie and His Houses of Parliament, and being willing to acquit our selves, according to the trust reposed in us by our Commission, and to leave nothing undone, whereby we may discharge our consciences to GOD, and our duety to His Majestie our Native Soveraigne, to testifie our affections to our Brethren in England, and provide for the peace betwixt the two Kingdomes, Have given and granted, and by the Tenour hereof gives and grants full power and Commission, expresse bidding and charge to *John* Earl of *Lowdon*, Lord High Chancellor, *John* Earl of *Lindsay*, Sir *Archibald Johnston* of *Wariston*, and Master *Robert Barclay*, Provest of *Irwing*, or to any two of them, the Lord Chancellor being one of the two, and to such others as from time to time shall be joyned to them by our Warrant, to repair to the Kings Majestie and Houses of the Parliament of England, and to use their best endeavours for effectuating the particulars above-written, and all that may advance the same, conforme to

the particular Instructions given, or to be given to them for that effect, firme and stable, holding and for to hold, all and whatsoever things shall be lawfully done herein, according to their Instructions. In witnesse whereof we have subscribed thir presents, with our hands. At *Edinburgh*. 18. January.

Instructions given by the Commissioners appointed by the Kings Majestie and Parliament of Scotland, *for conserving the Articles of the Treaty, and Common peace betwixt the Kingdomes, to* Iohn *Earl of* Lowdon, *Lord High Chancellor of this Kingdome, &c.*

YOu shall with all earnestnesse intreat His Majestie and the Parliament of England, that Episcopacie may be totally removed, and that there may be unity of Religion and uniformity of Kirk-government in all His Majesties Dominions, which by the late Treaty betwixt the Kingdomes, and by our Commission we find our selves Warranted and obliged by all good means to endeavour upon the reasons and grounds expreſt in our former desires, given-in in name of this Kingdome, the time of the Treaty, and in the Remonstrances sent from the Parliament of England to the Generall Assembly of the Kirk of Scotland, and

and the Supplications and Declarations ſent from the Generall Aſſembly, and their Commiſſioners to the Kings Majeſtie & both Houſes of Parliament, and which was ſeconded with the earneſt recommendation of His Majeſties Privie Councell, and is now renewed by Petition from the Commiſſioners of the Generall Aſſembly; the deſire whereof you ſhall aſſiſt. And to this effect you ſhall ſollicite His Majeſtie and both Houſes of Parliament for a meeting of ſound Divines of both Kingdomes, who may prepare matters for the conſideration of His Majeſty and the Parliament, and of more full Aſſemblies.

You ſhall ſhew, that although we neither ſhould, nor will ſtretch our ſelves beyond our line, to judge of the laws & proceedings of another Kingdome, nor take upon us to decide the differences betwixt the Kings Majeſtie and the Parliament of England: Yet we are ſo neerly intereſted in the ſafety of His Majeſties Royall Perſon, and juſt Authority, and in the preſervation of the Liberty and Peace of the Kingdome of England, more fully expreſt in our Letter and Declaration of the 29. of *September* laſt, that we cannot be anſwerable to our manifold obligations, and the truſt repoſed in us by His Majeſtie, and the Parliament of this Kingdome, if we ſhould not endeavour by all means the removall of theſe unhappy differences betwixt His Majeſty and His Houſes of Parliament.

You ſhall therefore humbly entreat, and earneſtly labour, that His Majeſtie and the Hònourable Houſes of Parliament may in the deep of their wiſedome, take ſuch fair and compendious wayes, as may remove the cauſes and occaſions of theſe troubles, without the effuſion of more

more bloud, and that there may be a more peaceable and amicable deciſion, then by the ſword, which cannot but be the occaſion of great jealouſies and fears to all His Majeſties good Subjects, and tend to the endangering of His Royall Perſon and Kingdomes.

And that there may be a right underſtanding betwixt His Majeſtie and His Parliament, you ſhall ſhow, that it is earneſtly wiſhed and deſired, that the Honourable Houſes of Parliament would think and reſolve upon the fitteſt wayes, for removing of all prejudices and miſtakes, and leave no good nor fair means un-aſſayed which may witneſſe their high and tender reſpect of His Majeſties ſacred Perſon and Royall greatneſſe, and may induce His Majeſtie to return to His Parliament, that they may be honoured and ſtrengthened with His Royall preſence.

You ſhall likewiſe from the deep ſenſe we have of the danger of His Majeſties Royall Perſon, and the ruine wherewith His Kingdomes are threatned, ſhew His Majeſty, that it is our humble deſire and faithfull advice, that (the impediments which keep His Majeſtie and His Parliament at ſuch a diſtance being removed) His Majeſty may graciouſly be pleaſed to hearken to the invitations of His Parliament, that there might be ſuch a mutuall confidence, as His Majeſty may return to His Parliament, which is His great and moſt impartiall Councell, that by a happy conjunction with them, all the great and publick affairs of that Kingdome may be ſo ſettled, as may tend moſt to His Majeſties Honour, the maintenance of His juſt Authority, the preſervation of the Priviledges of Parliament, the liberty of the Subject and proſperity of His Majeſties Kingdomes.

In regard not only of the great impediment to the Work

Work of Reformation, but also of the evident danger of the Protestant Religion, by Papists in Arms within His Majesties Dominions, as was more fully remonstrate to us by Petitions from the Kirk, and from the Gentry, which we cannot but acknowledge. You shall deal earnestly that all Papists now aloft and in arms in England, be dis-armed & dis-banded out of any Armies, wherein they are; and especially those in the Earl of New-Castles Army, because the most part thereof have been levied, and have their residence neer our borders, and may do us greater prejudice, nor Garisons in Barwick and Carlile, which yet were expresly contrary to the last Treaty.

You shall shew His Majesty, That as we are obliged by our Commission to be carefull that the peace betwixt the Kingdomes may be continued, and when any debate or difference doth arise to the disturbance of the common peace, to labour to remove and compose the same according to our power; so when any thing falls out beyond our power, and cannot be remedied by us, we are bound to present the same to His Majestie, and the next ensuing Parliament *respective*, That by His Majesties authority and theirs, the peace of the Kingdomes may be perpetuated to all posterity. And therefore seeing we conceive the removing of the present distractions, to be a work of difficultie beyond our power, & greater than can be by us remedied, and may come to that height before the next Trienniall Parliament, that any remedie that can come thereby will prove too late, You shall therefore in all humility beseech His Majesty, according to His gracious promise expreſt in the late Parliament, presently to indict a new Parliament, to als short a day as upon Warrant from His Majestie, the Subjects may be lawfully

warned thereto , that by their wiſedome and care, ſome good means may be found out, whereby the occaſion and cauſes of theſe troubles which have already ſhaken , and do threaten the over-throw of our common peace,may (als far as is poſſible) be removed, and the calamities like to enſue thereby, timouſly prevented.

Concerning the time of moving this demand , if you find the offer of our ſervice acceptable,and that the King, and Parliament are upon accommodation , and like to agree,you may forbear the proponing of it. But if you find that His Majeſty and the Parliament are not like to agree in haſte , then you ſhall inſtantly without delay, deſire that a Parliament be preſently indicted , as is above expreſt.

You ſhall be carefull , that the whole Articles of the former Treaty may be obſerved , and make the beſt uſe thereof , for removing of all differences , and impediments , and for continuing of the Peace and Union betwixt the Kingdomes.

You ſhall adhere cloſely and poſitively to our deſires for removall of Epiſcopacie , and other impediments for unity of Religion,and uniformitie of Kirk-government : But concerning differences betwixt His Majeſty, and the Houſes of Parliament , about particulars or perſons in matters civill , you ſhall deſire and endeavour , that the Parliament may out of their wiſedome , love to peace, and reſpect to His Majeſty , give Him all ſatisfaction, ſo far as may ſtand with their Religion and Liberties. And that His Majeſty may in things which may ſtand with His Honour and juſt Authority,give contentment to the Parliament, and make himſelf more happy in the affections of His people , which is the beſt way of glory and greatnes to His Majeſty,& proſperity to His Kingdomes.

Seeing

Seeing there can be no relation more near, nor ſociety more comfortable than that Conjunction which is betwixt the Kings M^tie, and His Royal Conſort the Queen, and that her M^ties ſo long abſence cannot but be grievous to both; you ſhall therefore ſhew our humble and earneſt deſires to His Majeſty for the Queen her ſpeedy return to England: And having obtained His Majeſties leave and approbation, you ſhall deſire the Hon: Houſes of Parliament may be pleaſed to joyn with us in dealing with her Majeſty, and inviting her for this effect: Which as it is an humble and dutifull expreſſion of the love and tender reſpect of both Kingdomes; ſo do we conceive, that it may be a powerfull mean to contribute to that more full and hearty agreement, which we and all His Majeſties good Subjects do wiſh betwixt his Majeſty, & his Parliament.

You ſhall likewiſe repreſent to His Majeſty, that the Commiſſioners have taken ſpecial notice of His M^ties excepting Sir *Arch: Johnſtoun* of Wariſtoun out of the ſafe conduct, and humbly to deſire that his Majeſty may take into his Royal conſideration, of what conſequence it may be, & what prejudice it may produce in the opinion of his good ſubjects, if any who are intruſted in the publick Affairs of this Kingdome, authorized thereto by his M^tie and Parliament, ſhal upon private & particular information, be rendred incapable of that truſt, or put out of his Majeſties protection, before a legall proceſſe be made, and ſentence paſt againſt them, And which you ſhal urge upon the reaſons and grounds you have here debated. And we deſire that you may humbly beſeech his Majeſty (who we are confident is, & ever will be moſt tender of the priviledge of Parliament, and liberty of the Subject) may be graciouſly pleaſed to remove this ſtop, ſince we have made

choyce of him, as of one who hath given sufficient proof of his fidelity, and hath never to our knowledge done any thing to the prejudice of his Majesties Royal Person, Honour, or Authority.

THE COMMISSIONERS LETTER
Sent to his Majestie with the Lord Chancellour.

MOST SACRED SOVERAIGNE,

AS our ardent and earnest desire of the honour of GOD, of Your Majesties safety & happinesse, and of the peace of Your Kingdomes, moved us Your Majesties most humble and loving Subjects, according to our Commission, & the trust reposed in us, by Your M^tie and Your Parliament, in such an exigence and extremity to offer our selves & our best endeavours for composing and removing these unhappy differences betwixt Your Majestie and Your houses of Parliament; and therefore to importune Your Majestie for a safe conduct: So having of Your Majesties Royall grace and goodnes received the same from the hand of the Lord Secretary; we have after long consultations in severall meetings, made choise of some of our own number, *John* Earle of *Lowdoun*, Lord High Chancellour, *John* Earle of *Lindsay*, Sir *Archibald Johnstoun*, & Master *Robert Barclay*; whom we do in all humility & earnestnes recommend to Your Majesties favourable acceptance, & do intreat, that Your Majesty may be pleased to hearken to our counsells and overtures, wherewith they are intrusted, as proceeding from honest & loyall hearts, desiring nothing more, then that God may be honoured in Your Majesties greatnes, & the prosperous estate of Your Kingdomes, & which we are very confident, will carry along with them the prayers and desires of the whole

body

body of this Your Majesties Native Kingdome, extremely longing for the happy end of the present troubles: which after a speciall manner should be, and is the desire of Your most humble, faithfull, and dutifull subjects and servants. *Edinb.* 18. *Jan.* 1643.

The Declaration of the Commissioners appointed by the Kings Majesty and Parliament of Scotland, *for conserving the Articles of Treaty, and Peace betwixt the two Kingdomes, met at* Edinburgh. 18 Ian. 1643.

To the honourable Houses of the Parliament of England.

NOthing on earth can be more grievous unto us and this whole Kirk and Kingdome, then the un-naturall and un-happy differences in England, and the so long lasting troubles and sufferings of our Native King, and our brethren in that Kingdome, to the effusion of Brittish & Christian bloud, the great offence of the neighbouring Kirks and Kingdomes, & to the hinderance of the so much & universally desired Reformation of Religion. The sense of these great miseries, and the fear of greater, imminent to both Kingdomes, suffered us not to rest, till according to our Commission, and the trust reposed in us, we made offer of our selves, and all that is in our power, for remedying of so

great evils , and removall of ſo heavy and deplorable calamities. For which end,as we were earneſt,by reaſon of the preſent poſture of that Kingdome, to have a ſafe conduct from theKings Majeſty and the Houſes of Parliament: ſo having obtained the ſame of both,our reſtles deſires to contribute our utmoſt endeavours in ſo pious and preſſing a duety did encreaſe upon us , and become more ardent then before: which hath made us after ſo much agitation of ſo weightie and important affairs , reſolve to ſend ſome of our own number,with ſuch Inſtructions and Overtures , as we judge moſt convenient for the good of Religion , the Kings Honour , the pacification of the Kingdome of England, and the peace of both Kingdomes. And therefore as we do earneſtly recommend the Perſons which carry our deſires to the kindneſſe and care of the Honourable Houſes of Parliament; ſo do we intreat , and expect from their wiſedome and goodneſſe that our counſell and deſires may find acceptance, as proceeding from ſuch a Chriſtian and brotherly affection,as deſireth nothing more, then the glory and honour of GOD , the greatneſſe and happineſſe of the King , and the peace and proſperity of His Kingdomes, And which we are aſſured being hearkened unto by the Honourable Houſes of Parliament , will give great ſatisfaction and content to this whole Nation, extreamly longing for a comfortable cloſe of the preſent troubles, that by unity of Religion, and a well grounded peace in themſelves,and either with other,the two Kingdomes may be firmely united , and ſtrongly eſtabliſhed againſt all inteſtine diviſion, and forraign power under His Majeſtie as one Head and Monarch , whom GOD Almighty ſave and graciouſly give, in Religion, Righteouſneſſe and Peace,long to raign over us.

The Councels two Letters to His Majestie.

Most sacred Soveraigne,

WE cannot cease from representing to Your Majesty from time to time, what may conduce for the good of Religion, Your Majesties honour, and the good of Your Kingdomes. A Petition hath been lately presented to us from the Commissioners of the Generall Assembly, earnestly entreating for our recommendation of their humble supplication to Your Majestie, for unity of Religion & Kirk-government in Your Majesties Dominions, for a meeting of judicious and sound Divines to that effect, and for removing of all impediments of the one or the other, with such other particulars as the supplication it self doth bear: Which although formerly recommended by us to Your Majestie, yet considring them to be matters so pious in themselves, and of more nor ordinarie importance to Your Majestie and Your Dominions, we are imboldned of new most humbly to beg Your Majesties favourable acceptance, both to the Bearer Master *Alexander Henderson*, who is not unknown to Your Majestie, and to the humble desires of the supplication, as arising from no other Originall, then doth our recommendation, the zeal of the true Religion, the tender care of Your Majesties happinesse, and the love of the publick: Which is, and ever shall be the greatest ambition of Your Majesties most humble and faithfull Servants and Subjects.

Edinburgh 24 Jan. 1643.

Most

Most sacred Soveraigne,

E make no new motion to Your sacred Majestie at this time: We only renue our former desires and prayers for Your Majesties happines and preservation, in the midst of so many dangers, and for the peace of Your Kingdomes, extremely desired and longed for by us, and all Your Majesties good subjects of this Kingdome. And knowing that for these desirable ends, the Commissioners for conserving the Peace betwixt Your Majesties two Kingdomes of Scotland & England (of which number some of us, who are honoured to be Your Majesties Counsellours make a great part) upon the receipt of Your Majesties safe conduct, have resolved to send some from them to Your Majesty, and Your Parliament. We could not of duety, but recommend to Your Majesties gracious acceprance, both the Persons, and their Commission, and in all humility and earnestnes of heart, intreat that Your Majesty may be pleased to give eare unto their desires, which they are trusted to represent, as coming from no other fountain, then zeal to God, and innate love to Your Majesty, and running to no other end, then that God may be honoured in your M^ties^ glory, and the greatnes of your Kingdome, & which we know, will strongly carry along with them the affections, desires, and endeavours of this whole Kirk & Kingdome, impatient till they hear of the setling of these unhappy & comfortlesse commotions In which disposition of heart it becomes us to be als far before all others, as we have above all others the trust and honour to be upon your Majesties Councel, & after a speciall manner to approve our selves your Majesties most humble and faithfull subjects and servants.

FINIS.